Case 2	1:15-cr-00095-WFK Document 450 Filed 02/10/20 Page 2 of 23 PageID #: 3470
	PROCEEDINGS 2
1	LORD & SCHEWEL 233 Broadway - Suite 2220
2	New York, New York 10279 BY: ABRAHAM RUBERT-SCHEWEL, ESQ.
3	DI. MDRUMET RODERT SCHEWEL, ESQ.
4	Also Present: SANJAR BADADJANOV, INTERPRETER
5	Court Reporter: LINDA D. DANELCZYK, RPR, CSR, CCR
6	Phone: 718-613-2330 Email: LindaDan226@gmail.com
7	Email: Eliabanzzoggmail: Com
8	Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography. Transcript produced by computer-aided transcription.
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12	
13	(In open court.)
14	THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: All rise.
15	The Honorable William F. Kuntz, II is now presiding.
16	Criminal cause for pretrial conference, Docket
17	Number 15-CR-95, U.S.A. versus Kasimov.
18	Counsel, please state your appearances for the
19	record; spell your first and your last names for the court
20	reporter, including the Uzbek previously-sworn interpreter.
21	MR. PRAVDA: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Doug
22	Pravda, David Kessler and Matthew Haggans. That D-O-U-G
23	P-R-A-V-D-A; David Kessler, D-A-V-I-D, K-E-S-S-L-E-R; and
24	Matthew Haggans, M-A-T-T-H-E-W, H-A-G-G-A-N-S.
25	(Defendant enters the courtroom.)

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	PROCEEDINGS 3
1	THE COURT: Good afternoon. Please be seated,
2	gentlemen.
3	Ladies and gentlemen of the public, please be seated
4	as well.
5	MS. MACEDONIO: Good afternoon, Your Honor.
6	Elizabeth Macedonio for Mr. Kasimov; E-L-I-Z-A-B-E-T-H,
7	M-A-C-E-D-O-N-I-O.
8	Mr. Kasimov is present at the table.
9	Ms. Sharkey just stepped out, she'll be right back.
10	And we also have.
11	MR. RUBERT-SCHEWEL: Good afternoon, Your Honor.
12	Abraham Rubert-Schewel; A-B-R-A-H-A-M, R-U-B-E-R-T, hyphen,
13	S-C-H-E-W-E-L.
14	THE COURT: Good afternoon. Please be seated.
15	Thank you.
16	And the interpreter's present again.
17	Would you state your name, sir, and spell it for the
18	court reporter. State your name and spell it.
19	THE INTERPRETER: Sanjar Badadjanov. S-A-N-J-A-R
20	B-A-D-A-D-J-A-N-O-V.
21	THE COURT: Thank you.
22	The delay today was occasioned, in part, by the fact
23	that the Court has been working with my law clerks on a
24	decision and order.
25	I'm going to read the decision and order, item 401,

and you'll be provided with copies of it by my courtroom deputy after I read it.

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Quote, after due consideration of all relevant submissions in evidence, the Court hereby denies in its entirety defendant's motion to disclose and to suppress evidence obtained pursuant to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, paren, ECF number 336, close paren. A memorandum of decision explaining the Court's reasoning will follow as soon as is practicable. So ordered. Signed by me today.

Mr. Jackson will give you copies of this decision and order 401 now. Please hand it to counsel, and we hope to have that decision filed for you on ECF certainly within the next 24 hours, but I wanted you to know where we had come out on that.

All right, second point is, I spoke with the marshals after yesterday's conference, and they have asked me to direct, and I agreed to do it, that the review of whatever *Giglio* 3500 materials or *Brady* materials you're going to see now to review them down in the holding cell area with counsel where you have desks and you will certainly have accessibility to your client.

As you may recall yesterday, I said it was up to defense counsel, prosecution, the marshals, and the Court with respect to whether you would be reviewing the materials here

in this courtroom or in the secured facility.

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After speaking with Mr. Juan Tavares, who came to my chambers the other day, he said that from a security point of view, it made a material difference to the marshal service to have the review conducted with counsel present obviously downstairs, and so that's where you will be conducting the review of the documents. So I just wanted to make those two points.

Now other items -- yes.

MS. SHARKEY: Judge, I just wanted to let you know I was downstairs with Marshal Tavares, and it's terrific. It's all set up. It's good to go.

THE COURT: He's a very good man. He came to see me yesterday, and he assured me there would be no adverse impact on the review process, and I assured him that if there was I would be hearing from Mss. Macedonio and Sharkey. So I'm glad to hear that he was a man of his word because I know if there's a problem, you'll let me know.

MS. SHARKEY: Judge, Mr. Kasimov would like to waive his appearance for the rest of this appearance so he can go and begin that.

Our paralegal, who you authorized yesterday, is down there wired up. It's on the screen.

THE COURT: Well, I don't know how much more we have to do today.

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1	MS. SHARKEY: Okay.
2	THE COURT: So it may be that we won't be in this
3	space, any of us, much longer today
4	MS. SHARKEY: Okay.
5	THE COURT: unless there's more to discuss.
6	So let me turn it over to the government now. What
7	are your open issues, counsel, that we need to address today?
8	MR. PRAVDA: Your Honor, I think that one we have
9	a few issues. I don't think it will take us long.
10	One is with respect to the jury selection.
11	THE COURT: Yes.
12	MR. PRAVDA: The Court had inquired our views
13	regarding certain emails from the coordinator.
14	THE COURT: I'm sorry, can you say that again, I
15	missed that?
16	MR. PRAVDA: Your Honor, the Court had
17	THE COURT: Yes, see that magic light, it makes all
18	the difference. Go ahead.
19	MR. PRAVDA: The Court had inquired or requested the
20	parties to review an email from the jury coordinator.
21	THE COURT: Yes.
22	MR. PRAVDA: And be prepared to discuss jury
23	selection.
24	THE COURT: Yes.
25	MR. PRAVDA: So the parties have largely agreed on

The parties -- again, it's an anonymous jury, so it's just going to be jurors 1 through --

What, 150, Mr. Jackson?

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THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: 130, Your Honor.

THE COURT: 130. Okay.

So jurors 1 through 130, and that's how they'll be identified, will have filled out the questionnaire. And you'll see what their responses are to the questionnaire.

Then I will go through my usual jury voir dire at 30,000 feet, and then I will go through the paddle exercise, which is not to be confused with any X-rated behavior, it is simply, if you have an issue with respect to the following item:

Do you know any of the lawyers or the parties to this case? If so, please raise your paddle now. And I will call out paddle number 2, 3, 18, 24, 37, whatever it is, thank you.

Do you -- have you read anything about this particular case? And they'll raise their paddles, and I'll call out the numbers.

And then, after we go through all the questions that the Court has elected to ask, I will call each jury up by paddle number. In the past I've had to say don't refer to the names, just the paddle numbers, no one's going to have the name, and then I will call jury number 1 up to the sidebar.

We'll put on the white noise machine.

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Why don't you put it on now, Mr. Jackson, so they get a taste of it.

THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Sure.

(Mr. Jackson complies.)

THE COURT: And they will come over to the sidebar, to my left, your right, and I will say to jury number One, Sir, madam, thank you, I see you raised your paddle with respect to questions 8, 12, 18, 37, tell me what your issues are with respect to it? And they may talk about child care. They may talk about job responsibilities. They may talk about vacations. They may talk about having an issue with this type of case.

They'll talk about whatever they wish to talk about, and I will listen to what they have to say. Only the Court asks questions of the potential juror.

And after I have spoken with them, I will either excuse them for cause, and they will then, if they are excused for cause, they will be told to go back down to the second floor jury room. And if they are not excused for cause, at that point they will be told to return to the jury box.

And once the process is complete, and we have the full box, the lawyers will then have an opportunity to review their notes and to exercise their peremptory strikes. And any of you who have tried cases with me before know my process in

doing that.

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And then we will announce the jurors who are excused and, again, also by paddle number, but that's all you're going to have in this case, in any event, it's not entirely different than what I typically do, and those jurors who are excused will be sent back to the second floor jury room, and then we will have our 12 plus four and we will administer the oath to them, and they will be given their jury badges and passes, and there we are.

Pretty similar to what I ordinarily do, because I think, as I mentioned before, I try to avoid the opportunity for what my Catholic school nuns referred to as the near occasioned sin, which is to say in the modern era, people reaching out to them through the internet or through inadvertence and having interactions.

I try to make all of my juries as close to anonymous as possible because I don't want our jurors to be further burdened. It's enough of an intrusion on their busy lives to give jury service. So that's how we're going to do it. It's going to be pretty smooth, I assure you.

MS. SHARKEY: Sorry, Judge. When does counsel get a copy of the questionnaire, the filled-out questionnaire?

THE COURT: As soon as it's filled out. I mean, the jurors aren't going to get here until Monday, right? They're going to fill it out on Monday, right?

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1 So after they fill it out, you'll get it. I mean, 2 you can't get it before they fill it out? 3 MS. SHARKEY: So the clerk's office, I quess, is 4 going to make copies? 5 THE COURT: Well, I'm not going to do it, and you're 6 not going to do it, and the defendant is not going to do it, 7 and the prosecutors aren't going to do it, so I guess that 8 leaves either the district court executive or the clerk's 9 office. And if Mr. Corcoran is in a photocopying frame of 10 mind, he'll do it. 11 I mean, the big debate is going to be if my law 12 clerks want double-sided copies or not, because I tend to be 1.3 old school and as not as environmentally friendly as they are, 14 but then again, you know, they'll probably have more to do 15 with the copying exercise than I do so it will probably be 16 more PC and environmentally friendly than otherwise. 17 MS. SHARKEY: Thank you, Judge. 18 THE COURT: Okay. 19 Other questions about this topic? 20 MR. PRAVDA: Your Honor, it sounds like that process 21 will take most of the day Monday. In order for the government 22 to be able to arrange the specific travel schedules of its 23 witnesses, we request that we, whatever time we finish Monday, 24 we adjourn at that time and then come back Tuesday morning for 25 opening statements and the government's -- excuse me, the

commencement of the government's case.

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THE COURT: What is the defendant's response to that request that upon the completion of jury selection, whether it takes an hour or whether it takes seven hours, we adjourn for the day? Are you amenable to that?

MS. MACEDONIO: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay, since both parties are amenable to that, whom am I to disagree. That's how we'll proceed.

Other questions from the government with respect to this topic or other topics?

MR. PRAVDA: So just, I guess, two notes that we want to point out with respect to the trial.

We intend — the government intends to introduce a number of items of evidence through a certification under Federal Rule of Evidence 902(14), and we have given the defense a copy of that certification and provided the required notice under the rule.

We've asked defense counsel whether they will object or not for planning purposes. They've advised us they'll get back to us, which is fine. I just wanted to put that on the Court's radar so that the Court is aware that we potentially may be making an application to the Court.

It works the same way that any other certification would work. So if it's a business record certification, the Court would determine whether the government's laid the

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appropriate foundation and then decide whether to admit the evidence or not admit the evidence over the defendant's objection.

THE COURT: Well, let me ask you, at this point are you prepared to file the documents that you have provided to defense counsel so the Court will have the benefit of having seen them now as opposed to seeing them some time on Monday?

MR. PRAVDA: I'm happy to do that, Your Honor.

The one sort of caveat is that these are audio files, and so what I could do is I could give the Court a copy of the certification, and then I could provide the Court with a disc that contains the audio files as well as some text messages that will all come in through the certification.

THE COURT: You're going to provide to the Court what you've provided to defense counsel, correct?

MR. PRAVDA: Okay. I can do that today.

And I already provided that to defense counsel.

I'll give the Court the copy of the same thing.

THE COURT: Any objection to the Court seeing what defense counsel has already seen?

MS. MACEDONIO: Absolutely not.

THE COURT: All right, so that way I'll be in a position, sooner rather than later, to make what passes from have Court as an informed decision, rather than making a decision on the fly, as it were.

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1 So you'll submit that to the Court today, obviously 2 on notice to defense counsel so I'll have what she's having. 3 All right. What else? 4 MR. PRAVDA: And then we have also been discussing 5 with defense counsel a number of proposed stipulations, and 6 we're going to continue those discussions, and hopefully the 7 parties will be able to advise the Court on Monday morning. 8 We have streamlined the presentation of evidence, 9 because there are a number of things that we have been able to 10 agree upon. 11 THE COURT: Well, I always encourage the parties, to 12 the extent they can, stipulate. You have only to look at me 1.3 to realize that my ability to streamline has been somewhat 14 limited in my life, but I do the best I can. 15 MR. PRAVDA: And then the last item, Your Honor, 16 there were certain things that the Court had requested during 17 the conference on Monday that the government get back to you 18 with respect to today. 19 And so one of those issues was the defense's request 20 for immigration documents, and so I'm going to ask Mr. Haggans 21 to address that. 22 THE COURT: This is the so-called A-File, among 23 other documents; is that correct? 24 MR. HAGGANS: That's correct, Your Honor. 25 THE COURT: Okay. Fire aware.

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MR. HAGGANS: So as a consequence of the Court's request, the government did reach out to Immigration and Customs Enforcement. We did receive those A-Files earlier today. We've not yet had the opportunity to review them, but I have discussed with defense counsel prior to this appearance what the government intends to do.

Based on the representations made to us by persons at ICE, who are more familiar with the file, it's our expectation that the vast majority of its contents, while we don't think they constitute -- we don't expect them to constitute 3500, or *Brady*, or *Giglio* information that has not been already disclosed to the defense, we expect we're going to be able to take a quick look through those materials, scan them up, and provide them for both the two witnesses.

ICE has alerted us that there is a small corpus for each individual that does raise particular law enforcement sensitivities. I don't know what those sensitivities are right now.

What we intend to do is to review those documents, and if they contain 3500, Brady, or Giglio information that either has not been disclosed or is in some way different from what has already been disclosed, we will find a way to disclose that information; perhaps not in the underlying documents, but a letter or something to that effect. And that is what the government hopes to complete as expeditiously as

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possession of United States which relates to the subject matter as to which the witness has testified.

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And I've done a little cursory research after

Ms. Sharkey raised this issue yesterday with the government,

and it's clear from the case law that that section of 3500(b)

is limited to exactly what it says, the subject matter of the

witness' testimony, not broader information about the case

which is on trial or anything like that.

THE COURT: All right. Well, I'll tell what you I will do. I will allow the parties, if you wish, to brief that particular issue. You have until 5:00 today to submit simultaneous briefs on the issue.

It seems to be a fairly narrow and focused one, if you're talking about this one agent and what he did, and I will take your submissions under advisement and I will issue a ruling.

I gave you guys a noon tomorrow deadline, and I'll impose that on myself, and more importantly on my law clerks. So we will issue a decision.

If you wish to brief it today, get the briefs in by

5. I will promise you a written decision with respect to that
application by noon tomorrow on that issue for that agent.

Okay?

MS. SHARKEY: Understood.

THE COURT: Okay. Other items?